

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/844,801

Examiner

Steven P Sax

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment 4/6/05 and Examiner's Amendment 5/10/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18,20,22 and 24-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/10/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



Reasons for Allowance

1. This application has been examined. The amendment filed 4/6/05 has been entered.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. This was made to cancel out claims 28-33 and 35-36 due to potential 101 issues regarding those claims. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Please cancel claims 28-33, 35-36.
4. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William Androlia on 5/10/05.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
The amendment filed 4/6/05 and Examiner's Amendment 5/10/05 together put the application into condition for allowance by canceling out all the unallowable claims. Invention is a novel system, method, and medium for displaying three dimensional imaging data such as CT imaging as a combination of three sectional images X, Y, Z orthogonalizing each other which: prepares in advance

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sectional images parallel to the X, Y, and Z sections and that are sliced off data from the three dimensional data at a predetermined interval; displays on three display parts the X, Y, and Z sectional images as a three sectional displaying mode, each selected from the prepared sectional images and together with an X, Y, and Z cursor respectively specifying a section of the corresponding images, such that when on any of the display parts at least one cursor is moved, sequentially changing a sectional image to be displayed corresponding to the moved cursor on the other different display parts following the moving of the cursor, and in a manner that the sectional image displayed on the other parts is then selected from the sectional images. The prior art does have imaging systems as well as three dimensional viewing systems. The prior art also has cursor synchronization systems, but the combination of features in the present invention to make the three dimensional imaging system such as for CT data, with the parallel slicing of data sectional images such that the multiple cursors are synchronized in their corresponding sections to then select the sectional image, as brought out in the claims, is not set forth in the prior art of record.

Independent claims: 1 – method. 7 – apparatus. 13 – computer readable medium.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven P Sax whose telephone number is (571) 272-4072. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


